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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 15 April 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 2 April 1991 addressed to you by Mr. Mustafa Aksin, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations, which has been circulated as document A/45/987-S/22437 as a reply to the European Parliament's resolution on the application of United Nations resolutions on Cyprus, which had been circulated in document A/46/118-S/22363 dated 20 March 1991.

That resolution, inter alia, called upon the Council and European Political Cooperation to intervene actively and to take all necessary steps to ensure that the United Nations resolutions on the question of Cyprus are complied with immediately.

Taking into account Turkey's declared desire to join the European Community, it is, to say the least, unfortunate to make such offensive statements and insinuations that disregard one of the most important and democratic institutions of the European Community. Suffice here to repeat the statement by Sir James Scott-Hopkins, MEP, Chairman of the European Parliament's delegation for relations with Cyprus, following a similar statement by the Turkish Foreign Affairs Ministry on 20 March 1991:

"The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the Cyprus situation on 14 March 1991. The resolution was adopted unanimously, and was fully in line with the Parliament's own position adopted on numerous

* A/46/50.

occasions in the past, with the position of the Foreign Ministers of the European Community meeting in political cooperation, and with the position of the United Nations.

"I was therefore shocked by the statement of the spokesman of the Turkish Foreign Affairs Ministry, Mr. Murat Sungar, which condemned the Parliament's resolution as having 'no legal or de facto validity'.

"I wish to make it quite clear that the Parliament's resolution was inspired by no fraction or group and represents the view of the House as a whole. The European Parliament has consistently called for a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus problem in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations and with international law. We favour the creation of an independent, democratic and multi-communal state, in which the rights of all Cypriots are guaranteed by law. We favour the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the territory of Cyprus. We favour the full respect of human rights.

"These views, which have been consistently reflected by the European Council, the Foreign Ministers of the Twelve and each of the Community's individual member States, are not only fully in accord with international law, but also entirely compatible with the efforts of the United Nations Secretary-General to find a solution acceptable to all parties.

"On behalf of the European Parliament's delegation for relations with Cyprus, I therefore reject the unfounded and unhelpful comments made on behalf of the Turkish Foreign Ministry and in the Turkish press."

I shall be grateful if the text of the present letter is circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 45 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Andreas V. MAVROMMATIS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Cyprus
to the United Nations